

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

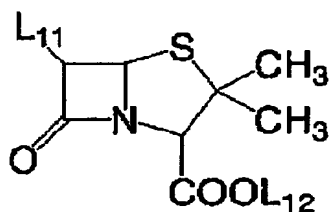
Listing of Claims:

1-38. (canceled)

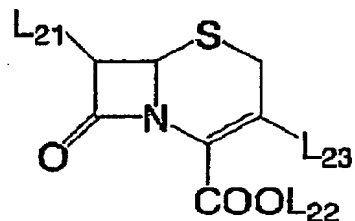
39. (previously presented) A photothermographic material comprising, on one surface of a support, a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for a silver ion, and a binder, which are applied to the support using an organic solvent, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a silver iodide content of 40 % by mol to 100 % by mol, the photothermographic material further comprises a compound having a β -lactam ring, and the compound having a β -lactam ring is a penicillin or a cephalosporin.

40. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 39, wherein the penicillin is represented by formula (2), and the cephalosporin is represented by formula (3):

Formula (2)



Formula (3)



wherein in formulae (2) and (3),

L₁₁ and L₂₁ each independently represent an amino group or a substituted amino group;

L₁₂ and L₂₂ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkaline metal ion, a quaternary ammonium ion, a hydrocarbon, or a heterocyclic residue; and

L₂₃ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an amino group, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an alkylthio group, an arylthio group, an acyloxy group, an acylthio group, a formyl group, or a heterocyclic residue.

41. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 40, wherein in formulae (2) and (3),

L₁₁ and L₂₁ each independently represent an amino group or an acylamino group;

L₂₁ and L₂₂ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkaline metal ion, or an ammonium ion; and

L₂₃ represents a non-substituted or substituted alkyl group.

42. (previously presented) A photothermographic material comprising, on one surface of a support, a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for a silver ion, and a binder, which are applied to the support using an organic solvent, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a silver iodide content of 40 % by mol to 100 % by mol, and the photothermographic material further comprises a compound having a β -lactam ring.

43. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 42, wherein an average grain diameter of the photosensitive silver halide is from 5 nm to 80 nm.

44. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 42, wherein a silver iodide content of the photosensitive silver halide is from 90% by mol to 100% by mol.

45. (previously presented) The photothermographic material according to claim 42 comprising, as the binder, polyvinyl butyral in an amount of 50% by weight to 100% by weight based on a total binder component in a photosensitive layer which is provided on the support.